

REMARKS

This is Supplemental Amendment is in response to the Response to Amendment of March 23, 2004 and the Office Action of October 4, 2003. With this response, the previous Amendment of January 5, 2004 is withdrawn, claims 1, 3 and 6 are amended, claim 10 is canceled and claims 1-9 are presented for reconsideration and favorable action. Claims 11-14 submitted in the Amendment of January 5, 2004 are withdrawn.

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted a typographical error in claim 3. Claim 3 has been amended and it is believed that the rejection may be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 based upon Wolf (4,375,944). Further, claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based upon Wolf in view of Abe (4,236,879).

With this Amendment claim 1 is amended to state that an upper end of the crank shaft has an eccentric portion with a connecting rod and an oil pick up tube is connected with a lower end of the crank shaft. This configuration is not shown or suggested by Wolf or Abe, either alone or in their combination. Further, this configuration is shown in the elected species set forth in Figure 3.

It is believed that independent claim 1 is patentably distinct from the references. Further, the dependent claims provide numerous configurations which are not shown or suggested by the references. As independent claim 1 is generic, it is believed that all dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

Further, Applicant notes that independent claim 9 is set forth in the elected species of Figure 3. This configuration is also not shown or suggested by Abe and/or Wolf and it is believed that this claim is also in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the present application is in condition for

allowance. Consideration and favorable action are respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By:

Jackson K. Champlin, Reg. No. 34,797  
Suite 1600 - International Centre  
900 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319  
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

JKC:lrs